



#7/A
WHL
2-9-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Black et al.
Serial No. : 09/276,056
Filed : March 25, 1999
Title : FAULT TOLERANCE FOR NETWORK ACCOUNTING ARCHITECTURE

Art Unit : 2172
Examiner : Fleurantin, J.

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Group 2100

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed June 19, 2001, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 2, as follows:

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(Amended) 1. A method of transmitting accounting records in an accounting system that produces information pertaining network traffic flow comprising:

collecting data from a network device by a data collector associated with the network device and producing accounting records from the data;

transmitting the accounting records to first and second flow aggregation processes, with transmitting further comprising for each flow aggregation process:

storing in the data collector the accounting records;

transmitting the accounting records to the flow aggregation process and

awaiting an acknowledgment signal from the flow aggregation process that the flow aggregation process received the accounting records before discarding the accounting records sent to the flow aggregation process.

(Amended) 2. A system, including an accounting module, comprising:

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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